land between the salt pans and the beach. But before the yard could be opened and buildings put up, the Excise Department objected to the opening of a yard at the locality on the ground of its usefulness for salt cultivation. But as the *alloms* were not being worked properly, the objection of the Excise Department was immaterial. The member therefore prayed that a fish-curing yard be opened on the site referred to.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Alexander, you have heard the remarks I made in connection with the pier at Colachel upon the representation made by the last member.

As regards the construction of a bridge over Pampuri *vaikal* between Colachel and Kodimuna, I shall ask the Chief Engineer to investigate the matter.

Then as regards defects in the working of the salt factory, the work had to come to a stand-still because the Chief Engineer and the Excise Commissoner had certain differences, and because there were certain difficulties for getting good brine. They will take up the question again and investigate it. Meanwhile I understand that the salt *alloms* do not constitute the only possible site for a fish-curing yard; there are other possibilities also, and they will be examined.

**132. Needs of the Neyyattinkara Municipality.**

MR. A. PARAMESVARAN NAIR (*Member, Municipal Council, Neyyattinkara*) said that the public wells in several parts of the town were unfit for use. The Alummoottil well was an instance in point. The wells should be deepened and repaired. The benefit conferred would more than compensate the expenditure on it. It was not easy for the Municipal Council to undertake the work and therefore the Government should do it.

The bathing ghats at Kuravani *kadavu* near the local palace and at the Brahmin Street, Krishnapuram, were in disrepair. The ghats should be improved and made fit for use. The improvement of the bathing ghat at Kuravani would also add to the safety of the walls of the palace buildings.

Parapet walls should be put up on both sides of the Kuttapana and Maruttur bridges and of the Tattankarai descent. On account of the absence of such protection, accidents were frequent.

The member's next suggestion was to transfer the revenue from the *poramboke* lands and the trees thereon within municipal limits to the Municipal Council.

There were one toddy and three arrack shops within the municipal limits. They were a menace to the peace of a small municipal town. Women and children passing along the roads near the shops were harassed by the drunkards there. One of the four shops was located near the motor junction and another near the local church. All the four shops should be removed outside the municipal limits.

There were 103 girl students in the local English School for boys. That was undesirable. The number of girl students would have been much larger, had it not been for the fact that parents were not willing to send their daughters to the Boys' School. A separate English School for girls should therefore be opened at Neyyattinkara. If finances would not permit its immediate opening, a proper headmaster should be posted to the Boys' School.

The playground attached to the English School was very small and should be extended by the acquisition of additional lands.

There was no pathway from the western side of the school to the main road. The distance between the two places was only one-fourth of a furlong. It would be a great benefit if a pathway be opened.

The existing town limits were not duly fixed. They should be extended westward as far as the 8th mile and some portions within the existing limits should be excluded.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Paramesvaran Nair, your Malayalam is of such a very high order that I am afraid I could not understand all that you said; so if I do not speak on all your points it is simply because you were speaking above my head.

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The first thing you spoke about was repairs to the bathing ghats and you want some wells deepened. These are matters purely for the Municipality to look into as I said last year.

Then you spoke something about parapet walls. Well, I did not quite follow you. If you will write to the Chief Engineer or tell him what you want, he will initiate action on the subject.

Then you said something about the transfer of *poramboke* lands and trees within the Municipality to the Municipal Council. I think you dealt with the same question last year. I would invite you to read the reply I gave last year and the reply which Mr. Raghaviah previously gave on that point.

Then you come to toddy shop No. 17. The Excise Commissioner tells me that he goes there on an average once a month, and nobody has ever complained about it. Perhaps you stored it all up for the Assembly. If it is brought to the notice of the Excise Commissioner, he will see what can be done so that all communities, including bus-drivers, may escape the evil of these toddy shops.

Your next item is the opening of an English School for girls. You know what the Government's policy is—not to go on opening new schools, especially English Schools. But if the Municipal Council or other private body applies to the Director of Public Instruction for permission to open a private school, I have not the slightest doubt that he will consider it sympathetically.

Then you speak about the revision of town limits. The Municipal President has appointed a sub-committee to go into the question and after they report to the Council he will write to Government. This report is awaited by the Government.

**133. Some Municipal problems and needs of the Trivandrum town.**

MR. R. SANKARANARAYANA AIYAR (*Member, Municipal Council, Trivandrum*) spoke about the defects in the Municipal Regulation. Firstly, the Regulation made no distinction between small towns and big towns. According to the member, municipal towns might be divided into three classes, *viz.*, the capital of the State, the major towns and the minor towns. The capital city stood on a different footing from the others. In some municipal towns, country parts, which derived no benefits from municipal activities, were included. The Municipal Regulation should not be applied to those parts. A separate Regulation applicable to the Trivandrum town should be passed on the model of the Madras City Municipal Act and the other municipalities should be divided into two classes, major and minor.

Under Section 47 of the Municipal Regulation, the Municipal Councils had to pay for the land acquired for their use but the Councils could not appear and adduce evidence in respect of the land acquisition cases, before the Land Acquisition Officer as in British India. In Travancore all land acquisition proceedings were conducted by the Government officers and Municipal Councils were not allowed to do anything in the course of such proceedings. The defect should be removed and the Municipal Councils should be given the right to refer to the District Courts any award with which they were dissatisfied.

For the proper governance of a town, careful attention should be paid to regulate the storage and supply of articles of food and drink to prevent their becoming unwholesome. The Municipal Regulation did not reproduce even the salutary provisions of the Penal Code on the subject although a penalty was imposed on persons selling food or drink, not of the genuine substance or quality of the article demanded by the purchaser. Many fell diseases were transmitted through such adulterated and unwholesome articles. The malpractices of persons engaged in the sale of milk and buttermilk were becoming scandalous. The articles obtainable in towns served only to introduce many varieties of dangerous bacilli in the human system. The old Town Conservancy and Improvement Regulation contained the necessary safeguards. The omission to embody similar provisions in the Municipal Regulation should be supplied, with reference to the provisions in the Madras City Municipal Act on the subject.

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